

7 Present Perfect with **just**, **already**, **yet**

- 1** We use **just** with the Present Perfect to talk about things that happened a short time before now:

have + just + PAST PARTICIPLE

*It has **just** finished.*

*Could I speak to Jane, please? ~ I'm afraid she **has just left**.*

(= She left a short time ago.)

*Is that a good book? ~ I don't know. I've **just started** it.*

(= I started it a short time before now.)

- 2** Look at this example with **already**:

Do you want something to eat? ~ No thanks,

*I've **already eaten**.* (= I ate before now.)

We use **already** with the Present Perfect to emphasize that something happened before now, or before it was expected to happen.

We use **already** like this:

have + already + PAST PARTICIPLE

*I've **already** heard that story.*

Here is another example:

Nicola: *Is Sarah going to phone you later?*

Robert: *No. She's (= She has) **already** phoned me.*

(= Sarah phoned before Nicola expected her to phone.)

- 3** We use **yet** with a negative verb to say that something has not happened, but we think that it will happen:



*The post **hasn't arrived yet**.* (= The post has not arrived, but it probably will arrive.)

*I **haven't finished** this work **yet**.* (= I haven't finished this work, but I will finish it.)

*They **haven't replied** to my letter **yet**.*

We use **yet** in questions to ask whether something, that we expect to happen, has happened:

***Have you paid** the bill **yet**?* (= Perhaps you have not paid the bill, but you are going to pay it soon.)

***Has it stopped** raining **yet**?* (= Perhaps it has not stopped raining, but it will stop raining soon.)

***Have you found** a job **yet**?*

Notice that we usually put **yet** at the end of a negative statement or question:

*They **haven't replied** to my letter **yet**.*

*Have you **found** a job **yet**?*

Practice

- A** Complete the dialogues, using **just** and the words in brackets (). Use the Present Perfect.

0 A: What's happening in this programme?

B: I don't know. It's just started (It/start).

1 A: _____ (I/come) back from my holiday.

B: Did you have a good time?

2 A: Could I have a copy of *Sports World*, please?

B: Sorry. _____ (I/sell) the last copy.

3 A: How's Lucy?

B: She's very happy. _____ (She/finish) her exams.

4 A: _____ (I/have) a letter from Mike.

B: Oh yes? What did he say?

5 A: Have you heard from Alison and Frank recently?

B: Yes, _____ (they/move) to another town.

- 6 A: Have you still got the same car?
B: No, _____ (I/buy) a new one.
- 7 A: Would you like something to eat?
B: No, thanks. _____ (I/have) breakfast.

B Make sentences using the Present Perfect with *already* or *yet*.

- 0 (I / not / read / today's newspaper.) yet
I haven't read today's newspaper yet. _____
- 1 (you / decide / which one to buy?) yet

- 2 (I / explain / this to you three times.) already

- 3 (Their baby son / start / talking.) already

- 4 (you / phone / Jane?) yet

- 5 (The game / not / finish) yet

- 6 (I / have / lunch) already

- 7 (He / spend / all his money) already

C Complete the conversation using *just*, *already* or *yet* and the words in brackets (). Put the verbs into the Present Perfect.

- Julia: Are you having a good time here?
- Anna: Yes, I haven't been here long, and ⁰ I've already visited _____ (I / visit) a lot of interesting places.
- Julia: ¹ _____ (you / visit / the Art Gallery /?)
- Anna: No, ² _____ (I / not / do / that), but I'm going to do it.
- Julia: What about the theatre? ³ _____ (you / see / a play /?)
- Anna: No, but ⁴ _____ (I / book / a ticket) for one. It's called *The Friends*. I rang the theatre five minutes ago. Would you like to come with me?
- Julia: Thanks, but ⁵ _____ (I / see / that play). I saw it last month.
- Anna: ⁶ _____ (I / read) in the newspaper that *The Adventurers* are giving a concert next week. Do you think it will be good?
- Julia: Yes. ⁷ _____ (they / make) a really good, new record. It came out a couple of days ago.
- Anna: Will I be able to get a ticket?
- Julia: Yes. ⁸ _____ (they / not / sell / all the tickets). But be quick! They're a very popular group.